

## New Ray Bauduc Band Opens Feb. 16; Jo Stafford Begins P. A. Stint in N. Y. Singer to Bow At Martinique

(Photo on Page 16)

JO STAFFORD makes her first New York night club appearance as a single starting Feb. 7 at the Club Martinique. Simultaneously, she will appear on NBC one night a week for four weeks with Perry Como on the Chesterfield "Supper Club" stanza heard coast to coast.

The brunet singer, who left the Pied Pipers a year ago, will continue to record for Capitol in N. Y. Her sister, Christine, accompanied Jo east and is serving as her secretary.

The Martinique engagement marks the first time Jo has ever worked any job—outside radio—on her own. During all the time she spent on the west coast she restricted herself to broadcasts and recording.

## Gil Rodin Aids Drummer's Plans

(Photo on Page 3)

AFTER several weeks of planning, and rehearsing new and untried musicians, Ray Bauduc will take his fresh band to Salt Lake City this month for a Feb. 16 opening at the Rainbo Rendevu. The engagement, for a minimum of four weeks, will find Bauduc appearing as a bandleader for the first time in his long and colorful career as a drummer.

Assisting Ray with the work is Gil (Pops) Rodin, longtime friend of Bauduc and a veteran of the Ben Pollack and Bob Crosby bands in which both were featured for a decade. Rodin will play baritone sax and manage the group.

The lineup of the unit will consist, in the main, of young musicians who have received honorable discharges from the army. Both Bauduc and Rodin recently were discharged themselves. "We think the youngsters are more enthusiastic," said Ray. "There's a lot of great musical talent in khaki. Much of it isn't being given a chance."

The band will feature a girl who sings ballads and a male to shout blues and novelties. Bauduc feels that every big band today is placing too much emphasis on Sinatra-like crooners. "We want none of that," he declared. Both Bauduc and Rodin have in mind a new musical style, obtained by unique voicing of reeds, which several young arrangers—all in the army—are busy perfecting. MCA is booking the band.



**BACK IN Hollywood, Andy Russell is doubling between motion picture tests and his new radio show, heard Saturdays on the Blue net. Latest news of Russell is on Page 3.**

## Cole Nabs 12G Pic Deal

Immediately upon their return to H'wood in the spring, the King Cole Trio will report to B. G. DeSylva to appear in "Stork Club," first film to be produced independently by De Sylva. Betty Hutton is the star.

The Trio will draw \$12,000 for less than two weeks' work in the pic. Carlos Castel, Cole's manager, signed contracts last week. Andy Russell also is skedded for a featured role in the same production. Cole, Hutton and Russell record exclusively for Capitol.



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pop-offs

Bellflower, Cal.

I saved every Capitol mag and recently sent them to a soldier in England. He was so overjoyed I'm sure you must have heard his shouts...Your albums are wonderful and I'm buying them all, for that soldier and I will be spinning the same platters together, come Victory.

Perhaps Capitol is a Cupid—it helped in my case, anyway!

**MARIJANE HARDIN**  
223 Belmont Avenue

Australia

Speaking of "Pop-Offs," I wish I had the ability to properly express the feelings and comments when members of our band read The Capitol. After 2½ years in Australia a guy gets plenty off the beam. The radio stations here could stand some new stuff in the way of records...Many thanks for a swell publication.

**JOHNNY MURPHEY**  
Base Three Band  
APO 923, San Francisco

Italy

This is to thank you very much for sending The Capitol—it sure is swell to read when we have the time. I'd like to hear from girls back in the States who like music and I wish someone would send me a list of popular songs, the artists who recorded them and what record. Best of luck.

**Pvt. R. GUERRERO (33577210)**  
APO 761, New York, N. Y.

Omaha.

I am astounded that Capitol Records is but a baby. In less than three years your firm has made more progress than the others have in ten. I doubt that many record buyers write you, but let me assure you all that many of us silently watch Capitol's ascension into the Big Four, and that your artists roster is well-balanced and well-chosen. A nod to The Capitol mag for presenting the most newsy and interesting dope-sheet in the field. Sincerely,

**MAUDE LAPHAM**



THE ESKY bash is a memory. It was good stuff, for the most part, and pretty effectively presented considering the difficulties. No Philharmonic concert in Los Angeles' history attracted the attention that the jazz busk attracted, and most everyone went away happy. . . . Stan Kenton will soon be featuring the tenor sax of Charlie Ventura. . . . And Buddy Stewart, the Krupa singer who was once wed to Martha Wayne, took the vows last month in H'wood with blonde Geraldine Cole. She was known as Gerry Lee a couple of years back when she was the wife of George (Bullets) Durgom.

**Major Miller's Passing a Blow to Music**

GLENN MILLER'S passing—and a legion of his friends are praying he still will show up safely—recalls that dark Monday night in 1941 a few hours after the Nips smashed Pearl Harbor. It was at the Cafe Rouge of Hotel Pennsylvania, where the Miller band was playing, that Glenn vowed to enter the service and do his part. Of the big and little names of musicdom, Miller, at the time, seemed most shocked and affected by the Jap attack. A few months later he had concluded arrangements to disband and was wearing khaki. His efforts in the all-out war effort accomplished much, especially his work in Great Britain this past summer and fall. America has lost a great musician...and a swell guy. No one on the current scene, at least, can replace him.

**"Modern" Music for New Bauduc Band**

LESTER YOUNG is ailing in the army hospital at Camp McClellan, Ala., and it is highly probable that he soon will be back in civvies, with his tenor sax. . . . Bill Burton opens his own booking office in L. A. soon; his application for a license was heard by Petrillo in January. . . . Ray Bauduc's deal with MCA is one of the best ever drawn for a young maestro. Gil Rodin saw to that. And while Ray and Gil will keep a few of the old Crosby band's stomp classics in the books, they intend to offer advanced, progressive music, too, in keeping with the times. Make way for a new name band!

**Los Angeles Again Hotbed of Hot Music!**

IT'S A frantic L. A. this month after too many months of comparative quiet along the music front. What with Coleman Hawkins, Ed Heywood, Willie Eckstine, Illinois Jacquet and a half-dozen other stellar performers around town (see Who's Where on page 13 for the roundup) the Ciudad de the Angels pack a wallop. Too bad that Tatum, Catlett and Casey returned east immediately following their Philharmonic Aud appearance. . . . Carl Cons, vet music scribbler of K. C. and Chicago, expected here shortly to set up a permanent residence. . . . And Ed Flynn and Harold Jovien are to be added to the list of those who pulled into town in January. . . . Was there a single poll the King Cole Trio didn't win in a walk?

**Regarding the Fourth Estate—And Stuff**

GLENN BURRS and Ned Williams of Down Beat will offer their twice-monthly Down Beat every week as soon as paper restrictions are lifted. And rival editor Barry Ulanov of Metronome is authoring a book on the life and career of the one and only Ellington, to be published next October. On the same riff, Editor Art Hodes of The Jazz Record is lining up a tour of the British Isles, as solo pianist. Which reminds that our thanks are due Bob Thiele of Jazz mag for supervising that all-star jazz date for Capitol in New York. . . . Carlton Brown's excellent disc review pillar in Pic will continue even though he has resigned from Pic's staff as an editor. Which totals to 30 from Vine street.

Eckstine Ork  
In Bow at  
Plantation

**BULLETIN**  
Dizzy Gillespie and Dexter Gordon just quit the Eckstine band and will not appear at the Plantation Club. Bud Johnson, tenor, replaced Gillespie as Eckstine's musical director. Gillespie and Gordon remained in New York, according to word just received in Los Angeles.

**BILLY ECKSTINE'S** new band, due to open at the Plantation Club in L. A. on Feb. 1, is rated as the fastest-rising young band to come up within the last year.

The leader, long identified as a pash vocalist with Earl Hines, has surrounded himself with a group of first-rate sidemen sparked by Dizzy Gillespie, trumpeter and arranger. Eckstine also showcases the talents of two outstanding tenor saxists, Gene Ammons, son of the boogie pianist Albert Ammons, and Dexter Gordon, at one time a bulwark of the Lionel Hampton band.

Also slated to appear at the Plantation as a star of the show is Sister Rosetta Tharpe, guitar-strumming shouter of blues famed for her Holy Roller mannerisms.

Joe Morris, owner of the Plantation, will thus be bringing the Eckstine band to the west coast for the first time. Co-featured with the leader, as vocalist, is Sara Vaughn. Eckstine plays trumpet as well as rating near the top among the pop vocalists of the day.



**LOVELY LENA** and her arranger-conductor Horace Henderson returned to H'wood last month after a long USO tour in the South. La Horne is back at MGM now working in films. She never lets a week go by, however, without playing military bases or hospitals hereabouts.



**SLICK CHICKS** Elva (left) and Lucyann Polk are heard as members of the Town Criers quartet on the Kay Kyser Colgate show. Their brothers, Gordon and Vernon Polk, fill out the group. But the brothers don't look like this. NBC Photo.

New Air Show  
For Russell

Busy taking tests for B. G. DeSylva Productions, Andy Russell teed off his new radio series on Jan. 20 and will be heard Saturday night (7, PWT) over a coast-to-coast Blue network hookup singing the songs which pushed him into the top ranks in '44.

Russell is being eyed as star material by DeSylva, who recently resigned as a top Paramount executive to form his own production unit and produce pictures on his own.

Charlie Barnet  
For Casa Manana

The Mad Mab of Musicdom, Charlie Barnet, will follow Harry James' ork on the Casa Manana bandstand in nearby Culver City this month, playing weekends only.

Barnet has been playing theatres with his barrelhouse combo. The Casa is trying to get Duke Ellington to follow the Barnet engagement.

Heywood  
Band on First  
L. A. Booking

Los Angeles is playing host to two new bands this month, with Billy Eckstine at the Plantation and Eddie Heywood at Shepp's Playhouse.

The Heywood orchestra was one of the outstanding successes of 1944, paced by the young leader's piano. Heywood, son of a pioneer jazz musician and at one time featured with Benny Carter's Savoy orchestra, has one of the world's greatest trombone players in Vic Dickenson. Virtually all the arrangements used by the Heywood band are the work of Heywood himself.

Gerald Wilson's band bowed out of the Playhouse in favor of Heywood.

Jackie Gale is managing the Heywood combo and is here for the combo's engagement, which will continue through-out February.

Sully Mason on Own

Kay Kyser's singing saxist, Sully Mason, only remaining member of Kyser's original North Carolina band, left Kyser last month to play theatres as a singing single.

Kay Kyser's newest vocal property is brunet Dolly Mitchell, former Stan Kenton singer, who joined the Kyser krew last month in Los Angeles and is heard on the band's Colgate commercial.

Callender at Royale

Red Callender, bassist, and his trio are the current attraction at the Club Royale on Broadway. Group is styled in a King Cole groove and features piano by Duke Brooks and guitar by Louie Gonzales.



**RAY BAUDUC** makes his debut as a bandleader Feb. 16 in Salt Lake City as leader of a brand new combo. The famed drummer, shown at The Capitol's offices with Gil Rodin—his manager, partner and baritone sax player—became prominent with the old Bob Crosby band. Photo by Charlie Mihn.



# off the cuff

**NORMAN GRANZ** is now clicking, commercially, with his Philharmonic jazz concerts after a slow start. With the help of Al (KFWB) Jarvis, Granz has shown big profits his last three times out using various local musicians and with Jarvis emceeing. The next concert ("Jazz at the Philharmonic No. 6") will come off Feb. 12.

Plenty of musicians around town grabbing warplant jobs.

Leonard Feather racing around L.A. to catch bands and singers. He stayed over following the Eskey bash.

Ray Bauduc and Gil Rodin both purchased homes here.

Sgt. George T. Simon expected here to record V discs for army. He was pre-war editor of Metronome.

Maury Bercov, vet Chicago clarinetist, pulled in and is doing casuals until his Local '47 card comes through.

Winston Manone back after visit with his parents in New Orleans. Plans indefinite, he says.

Vivian Blaine bagged a new and fatter contract at 20th and also married her agent.

Red Nichols and Herb Haymer, tenor saxist, parted company. Ted Tillman joined Red as drummer.

Dian Manners cleffing book dealing with band and movie celebs.

Henry Busse opens remodeled Mission Beach Ballroom in San Diego Feb. 3 with Ella Mae Morse as special attraction.

Gracie Fields' radio show fades off the Blue web with Feb. 6 broadcast. Lou Bring conducted the ork.



**REMEMBER HER?** Pat Friday was a UCLA co-ed back in 1939 when Bing Crosby "discovered" her singing talent and presented her regularly on his airshow. The same Miss Friday has returned to radio and is heard on the Mutual net Tuesdays on the Roy Rogers show. This is her newest shot.

## Artie Shaw Eyes Coast

Artie Shaw and his band will return to California in the near future following the completion of theatre engagements in the east.

Shaw and his combo, with Roy Eldridge on trumpet, opened at the N. Y. Strand Jan. 26. Following the Strand Artie plays one-nighters cross-country to Hollywood. The band also played in Boston and Philly last month.

## Millinder to Use Eight Vocalists

Plans for a vocal group of eight singers are being readied by Lucky Millinder, whose band just closed at the Plantation Club. Millinder soon to return to New York after two months on the west coast, said he would reduce his brass section to five men, add a guitarist who doubles vocals, and feature the vocal octet as a octet "has never been featured in a dance band previously."

Millinder said he was trying to sign Melvin Moore, who has been working with Ernie Fields' band at the Club Alabam, as the vocal soloist. Ever since Trevor Bacon left Millinder last year the band has suffered in the ballad department.

Judy Carol remains with the outfit a girl canary.

Millinder indicated he had spent considerable time studying and experimenting with various vocal combinations and that the octet he had in mind using both female and male voices, "unlike anything you ever dreamed of." Moe Gale will book him anyway.

## Heidt Opens at Trianon Ballroom

Horace Heidt and his orchestra are the newest attraction at the Trianon Ballroom in Southgate, a L. A. suburb.

The Trianon is owned by Heidt. Featured with the band are Shorty Cherock, trumpet; Joe Rushton, bar saxophone; Mel Henke, piano, and a assorted vocalists. Heidt holds at the Trianon throughout February, and places the Ted Fio-Rito combo.

## Three Orks on Tap At Ciro's on Strip

Ciro's inaugurated a three-band polo last month to buck Xavier Cugat's engagement at the rival Trocadero near Musical combos now on tap at Ciro include Dolores' rumba crew, Ivan Sc and the Rythmaires, a trio. Carlos Ramirez is star of the show, which opens Jan. 24.

## All-Fem Trio for L.A. Hotel Bel-Air

Tilli Dieterle, pianist, and her all-fem trio are the new attraction at the Bel Air Hotel here. Tilli also broadcasts over KMTR.

# Moppets Puzzle Our Miss Jug Head.... No Squares in This Setting

By HELEN BLISS

**AFTER MANY** years of eavesdropping I have come to a conclusion. If you've been there for some time, greet me with a tolerant smile. It's my flair for the long double-take showing again. My friends often call me Jug Head. But dim-wit or double-take, it's a fact that jazz, both legitimate and commercial, is largely responsible for the growing musical discernment of younger America. And it's a fact that can stand a little extra publicity.

### Bedlam on a Bus

For study in one of the more active departments of the human drama, a wordy way of describing the High School set, take a ride on a Sunset bus some morning about 8:30—you'll get your face pushed in but it'll be worth it. The other morning after completing my patented crouch-run to a sitting-standing position approximately inside the door, I had just started my usual brooding on which of several conversations would make the best listening when three voices suddenly struck out above the rest. Two of them were high and feminine and the third promisingly virile but a little jumpy on the pitch. They were battling about the relative merits of several well-known jazz men. As far as I could gather from my foxhole the affair was going on somewhere in back of me, and thinking to get a glimpse of the trio through the underbrush of necks, I decided to attempt a pivot using my new lever technique. At no time was this successful, but on the other hand neither was it necessary. The discussion began to take on a rash-like quality, and before I left it included the entire rear end of the bus and had branched out into a harangue on how records are made. To add confusion to confusion, from somewhere came the names of Arnold Schoenberg, Bugs Bunny and Max Steiner. What their particular affinity was I don't know. I was being thrown bodily from the bus at the time.

### Youngsters Are Hip

How they were talking is immaterial, however. The swell thing is that the young mob was concerning itself with music. And the beginnings of such pro and con discussion are directly traceable to the rise of a thing they used to call Swing back about 1936. At least I can't



are still way ahead of their aunts and uncles at a similar age in the matter of music appreciation. Good jazz, well played dance music and good symphony are all running mates. And in many cases, because of an interest in the former two, the latter has become a familiar subject to 17-year-olds.

### What Ears They Have!

However, don't get the idea that they're letting symphony men sit around on laurel wreaths. When a string or brass section is sloppy they know that, too. They haven't been listening to precision and tone conscious dance bands for nothing. If I were you though, I wouldn't breathe a word of this to your strictly longhaired friends. You may find the broken pieces of an unstrung Stradivarius in your morning coffee.

## Four Hillbillies Will Record For Capitol

Signing of four outstanding hill-billy attractions as exclusive Capitol artists was announced this week by Lee Gillette of Capitol upon his return from a three-month trip into the hill country.

Wally Fowler and his Georgia Clodhoppers, radio favorites in Knoxville; Pappy Beaver, noted singer and guitarist also heard on a Knoxville station; the Burchfield brothers, singers, and Uncle Henry's Original Kentucky Mountaineers all signed contracts. Gillette recorded all four groups while in the east.

Uncle Henry's combo has been featured for nearly four years on Chicago's Station WPPD. Fowler, a singer, heads a four-man band.

Pappy Beaver is a favorite of WBIR listeners.

## Mocambo Reopens

The Mocambo Club reopened last month on the Sunset strip with the orks of Emil Coleman and Phil Ohman providing music.

## MARTHA TILTON

'I Should Care'  
AND  
'Stranger in Town'

WITH ORCHESTRA

Capitol  
RECORDS No. 184



JO STAFFORD  
JOHNNY MERCER  
'CANDY'

WITH THE PIED PIPERS

Capitol  
RECORDS



WITH PAUL WESTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA

and JOHNNY MERCER  
'I'M GONNA  
SEE MY  
BABY'

No. 183



## Capitol Manager Gives His Life Fighting Nazis

Lester Walters, former New York branch manager of Capitol Records Distributing Co., Inc., died of wounds received last month in the American army's front lines in Germany.

Walters, who leaves his wife and a daughter, was drafted as a buck private in 1943. Before becoming affiliated with Capitol he was an assistant to Alan Courtney on Station WOV, New York, where he was affectionately known as "Heathcliffe" to thousands of Courtney's listeners.

Wounded during a November offensive, Walters was removed to a field hospital behind the Yank lines. He succumbed a few weeks later. He was the first employee of Capitol to die in World War II.



**DIES OF WOUNDS**—Lester Walters, former Capitol branch manager in New York, is dead of wounds received in a recent Allied offensive in Germany. He was known to a legion of WOV listeners as "Heathcliffe" on various Alan Courtney programs.

## Leopold Stokowski in Charge Of Hollywood Bowl Music

The engagement of Dr. Leopold Stokowski as musical director for the Symphonies Under the Stars for the coming summer season was announced last month by the Hollywood Bowl Association.

The conductor's regime with the bowl will run for three years, starting with the 1945 summer series, it was stated. Stokowski, now in New York, will return west in time to begin active pre-season preparations.

In his position as bowl musical director he will have charge of all recordings, radio and motion-picture plans of the bowl and will conduct a substantial portion of the season's concert programs.

Prominent in the music life of the nation for the last 40 years, Stokowski was for nearly 30 years conductor of the Philadelphia Orchestra.

Hollywood Bowl Association recently announced it will resume operation of the Symphonies Under the Stars seasons with the 24th annual presentation of summer events in 1945.

## Coleman Hawkins Will Play in L. A. At Cornegie Hall

Los Angeles music fans who were disappointed over the failure of Coleman Hawkins to appear in person at the recent Esquire concert will still have the opportunity to hear the famed tenor saxist. Starting this month—the opening date has not yet been announced because of alterations and redecorating—Hawkins will lead a small band at Cornegie Hall on Vine street.

Cornegie Hall is a "super-market" and has never employed name talent previously. Hawkins has never before played west of Kansas City. Bill Berg will operate the nitery.

It's said that the "Bean," as he is familiarly known to musicians, will lead a five-piece combo. His failure to appear at the Esquire bash was blamed on transportation difficulties. Ads for the concert carried his name as a featured performer right up until curtain time.

## Bob Parrish New At Club Alabam

The new Bob Parrish orchestra landed its first nitery job late in January at the Club Alabam, downtown sepia hotspot.

Parrish, a singer, organized the group only two months ago. The band features arrangements by Bill Grey and his wife Marge Gibson. It's a full-sized outfit with two pianos offering an unorthodox rhythm section setup.

Parrish followed Ernie Fields into the Alabam. KPAS broadcasts from the spot every morning at 12:45.

## Kaufman Cuts Out; To Solo in N.Y.

Louis Kaufman, violinist, was to leave Jan. 31 for Wichita Falls, Texas, to begin a three-month concert which will take him throughout the country. High spot will be a concert in New York's Town Hall. Kaufman will be accompanied by his pianist-wife, Annette.

## Sunday Bashes on KPAS Airplanes...

A series of Sunday jam sessions, with Zutty Singleton and Joe Sullivan as regular guests, goes on the air via KPAS starting Feb. 10 at 2 p.m. The series is sponsored by Ted Yerxa, columnist for the L. A. Daily News.

# Esky Bash Boffo Click With Duke Sell-Out House Roars Approval

IT WAS Duke Ellington win, place and show at the second annual Esquire magazine jazz concert Jan. 17. Los Angeles music fans—and several hundred professional musicians—shouted their approval, their idolatry, of the Duke as he and his 16 tux-bedecked sidemen set up shop on the stage of the Philharmonic Auditorium to make their first west coast appearance in three years.

### To a Capacity Audience

Performing to a sell-out house of 2,800 and given assistance by Art Tatum, Al Casey, Sidney Catlett, Willie Smith, Billie Holiday and Anita O'Day, the Duke drew almost exclusively from his more recent compositions. He played not a single pop tune; the only evergreen he offered, in fact, was a rousing and modernized version of "It Don't Mean a Thing." The first portion of the concert revolved around the band's "Blutopia," "Air-Conditioned Jungle," "Frustration," "Suddenly It Jumped" and the "Coloratura" portion of Ellington's new "Perfume Suite." Clarinetist Jimmy Hamilton, Lawrence Brown, trombone; Harry Carney, baritone; Taft Jordan, trumpet, and William (Cat) Anderson, trumpet, shared the bulk of the solo assignments, and expertly. Only Hamilton sounded run of the mill. Barney Bigard is still missed.

### Smith Squeaks a Reed

Danny Kaye moved onstage to effect a connection with the Blue network, which broadcast a portion of the concert as well as "pipe-ins" from New Orleans and New York. Kaye proved fairly inoffensive in a difficult role, turning the stage over to Duke for a spirited John Thompson arrangement of Leonard Feather's "Esquire Jump." A harsh and unexpected reed squeak marred Willie Smith's tasty alto solo of "Tea For Two." And then Billie Holiday, the Lady Day of Jazz, came through with a slow, and in some respects a sub-par performance, of "I Cover the Waterfront." It was Duke's band—Billy Strayhorn at the piano—backing her piquant pipings.

Ellington's brilliant and booting "Midriff" instrumental, Art Tatum's Steinway strummings on "The Man I Love" and "I Can't Give You, Etc." and Johnny Hodges' lush, warm tones as he altoed "The Mood to Be Wooed" all added up to boffo proportions.



**SURPRISE star of the Esquire concert was Anita O'Day, most critics agreed, despite her appearance on the same bill with the veteran Billie Holiday. Miss O'Day, who broke into show business dancing in walkathons, is regularly featured with Stan Kenton's band which now is on tour. Dave Dexter's review of the concert fills the adjacent columns.**

### Jam Session Flop

Weakest kick of the entire production was the "three-way jam session" with Louis Armstrong, in New Orleans, and Benny Goodman, in New York, piped in to jam with the Ellington band on "Things Ain't What They Used to Be." Something was wrong; only 45 seconds were allotted this experiment, and the Blue net signed the show just as Duke, Louie and BG were getting started. It laid an egg.

The remaining half of the show gave Casey, Catlett, Holiday and O'Day another spot, strongest and most entertaining part of which centered around Anita's head version of "I Can't Believe That You're in Love With Me." Duke's men moved in to ad lib her backgrounds with Casey and Catlett. It scored.

### The Duke Muffs His Line

The final portion swung back to the Ellington ensemble, resplendent in black tuxedos. Ellington emceed the last half himself, and although personable and friendly in his manner, muffed many of his lines and seemed unsure of what was to come next. He needn't have spoken, for his "Black, Brown and Beige" excerpts spoke for themselves. A girl singer whom Duke weakly introduced as "Marie, a girl with the band" (and whose full name is Marie Ellington—no relation to the leader) sang a part of this latter work fetchingly. Johnny Hodges' solos with only guitar and bass accompanist, Joe (Tricky Sam) Nanton's jungle-like trombone, Al Sears'

## Concert Highlights

Lawrence Brown's tram on "Blue Cellophane." . . . Rex Stewart's cornet and "Frantic Fantasy." . . . The Hodges solo during the "Black, Brown and Beige" offering. . . . And the presentation of trophies by Lena Horne, Judy Garland, Lionel Barrymore and Jerome Kern. Swell showmanship!

tenor and other choice instrumental spots were effective and entertaining. Much has been written of this "B, B & B" effort on Duke's part. To L.A. musicians, it sounded great. There was little room for disagreement the way the band performed it on this red-letter night at the Philly.

Duke's own piano, which he had forsaken in order to conduct most of the program, likewise was fetchingly presented. And on the final opus, "Frankie and Johnny," the entire band joined in to bring down the curtain amid wild displays of enthusiasm from the galleries.

### Audience Appreciative and Rude

It was, in short, a wondrous event. The audience was appreciative, in the main, and at times rude and undisciplined. Frequently the Hot Rock brigade began clapping, out of tempo, and in other ways it detracted from the music.

Leonard Feather, who assembled the musicians and assisted in producing the program, made only one stage appearance. He led the nearly-blind Tatum across stage to the piano. When Tatum concluded his offerings, however, no one was on stage to help him. Tatum collided with a microphone before a Blue announcer led him to safety.

### Receipts to Armed Forces

All receipts, after expenses were deducted, were given by Esquire to the Voluntary Army Canteen Service, which will use the money to assist men and women in the armed forces.

The California press gave the event remarkably little publicity, and reviews of the concert were strictly copied from the printed programs. L. A. music critics revealed a shocking ignorance of jazz music in their recaps of what transpired.

Winners in the Esquire poll were presented statuettes and \$500 war bonds. Ellington was paid \$1,750 for his performance. A week later, he and his troupe opened at the L. A. Orpheum Theatre where they offered a more "commercial" but still-exciting presentation.

The failure of Coleman Hawkins to appear as scheduled was a major disappointment, inasmuch as he has never played on the coast. Transportation difficulties were blamed for his absence.

**THE PIED PIPERS**  
WITH PAUL WESTON AND HIS ORCHESTRA

**'Dream' and 'Tabby the Cat'**  
from Columbia's "EADIE WAS A LADY"

Capitol RECORDS  
No. 185



# ..HIGHLIGHTS OF THE .A. ESKY JAZZ BASH..



**EXCLUSIVE** photos of the Esquire jazz concertos Angeles' Philharmonic Auditorium Jan. 17 revolve main, around the Duke Ellington organization. In, most renowned of all jazz titans, is shown at left and again in the photo above as he conducts his

through "Perfume Suite." The concert was a sell-out five days before curtain time. Coleman Hawkins' failure to appear was a blow to California jazz fans, but the consensus was that the event, in every other respect, proved successful. The concert is reviewed on Page 7.



**LADY** Day, Billie Holiday, shared vocal honors with Anita O'Day. Here she is at the rehearsal. All photos were taken a few hours before the actual concert. The Blue network broadcast a 90-minute program.



**HARRY** Carney, left, and Lawrence Brown, on the right, are two Ellington stars who performed flawlessly. Kaye emceed the long program. Next year's stars slated for Chicago.

**REX** Stewart, cornet, and Johnny Hodges, alto, offered extra kicks with their solo artistry. All photos, except Blue network shot of Billie Holiday, are Capitol pix by Charlie Mihn.



**GUEST** stars included, in addition to Sonny Greer at left, Sid Catlett, Willie Smith and Albert Casey, all winners in the recent Eskey poll. Art Tatum, not shown, also appeared as a poll winner.



# Soldiers Eager for Music News in War's Front Lines

Mail from American fighting men is received by Capitol in Hollywood from all over the world regularly. But three letters which arrived one day last month, in the same delivery, indicate what goes on in the minds of Yank soldiers far from their home bases.

From Pfc. Walter Gibson "somewhere in the Philippines" comes this salutation:

"Just recently received the September and October issues of The Capitol and I want to thank you for continuing to send them. The mags have been following me from New Guinea to the Admiralty Isles and now to the Philippines and you can be sure the boys are getting a great deal of enjoyment from them.

## "We Intend to Stay"

"This last package of Capitols came to me by native pack train over the mountains, so you never can tell what mode of travel they will take after leaving Hollywood... MacArthur and I finally returned and we intend to stay this time."

And from Burma, Pfc. H. F. Morris also writes to thank Capitol for its magazines. "We were fortunate enough to hear Johnny Mercer's radio program for a time," Morris advises, "and again I want to thank you for The Capitols. It's a wonderful medium by which we can keep in touch with what is going on in the music world back home."

**Army Bands Dig The Sheet, Too**  
S/Sgt. Al W. Nied of APO 565 "somewhere in New Guinea" writes:

"A hearty hello and thanks for the issues of the paper. It's a morale builder—I've never seen any publications so

appreciated as The Capitol. As a musical technician in the Special Services section I handle and supply all the bands with necessary equipment and information. The boys really appreciate The Capitol. Even though the last issue was dated October it was still news to us."

## One G. I. Proposes Marriage!

Heavy mail from fighting men is received by Capitol Publications from all parts of the world, and several thousand copies of The Capitol are sent gratis every month to the various war theatres. One soldier, in England, proposed marriage to a California girl (see Pop-Offs, page 2) after she sent him The Capitol overseas. But that doesn't happen often.



**BOBBY SHERWOOD'S** the kibitzer, and the G. I. tub-thumper demonstrating a paradiddle is Pfc. Bob Hummel, who beat the traps for Sherwood's band before he entered the army. Photo was snapped at Mather Field, Cal., at the Air Transport Command post. Sherwood's band now is touring in the east.

## Ginny in Radio Role

Ginny Simms and Pamela Britton will share star billing in MCM's "No Leave, No Love." Setting is based on H'wood's radio city with Ginny and Pam playing roles of air canaries.

## Clover Club Dark

The Clover Club on the Sunset strip is dark. After 60 days, it will reopen with a different policy and will not try to compete with the Mocambo and Troc.

# Esky Stars Wax Jazz For Capitol

**THREE STARS** of the recent Esquire jazz concert recorded a series of discs for Capitol in H'wood Jan. 19 with "Big Sid" Catlett, Albert Casey and Willie Smith heading the all-star lineup.

## Catlett and Casey Leaders

Assembled for two sessions, one group was led by the winner of Esquire drum chair in the All-American band, Catlett, who featured Joe Guy, trumpet; Casey on guitar, Ben (Bull Moose) Jackson, alto; Bumps Myers and Illinois Jacquet, tenors; Horace Henderson piano, and John Simmons, bass.

Casey's group, which recorded both as a quintet and sextet, included Catlett, Henderson, Simmons, Willie Smith, Jacquet and Gerald Wilson, trumpet. Wilson now leads his own band in L. A. and two weeks ago concluded a long engagement at Shepp's Playhouse downtown.

No vocals were recorded, all the numbers being instrumental selections.

## First Jazz Plates for Smith

Casey and Catlett left for N. Y. immediately after the session. Simmons also a New Yorker, remained here to free-lance.

Smith now is featured with Harry James' band. The Capitol session marked his first recording date with an informal group of jazzmen. Previously he was featured with the Lunceford and Spival combos.

The records, supervised by Cap's Dave Dexter, are not scheduled for release yet but will probably come out in a jazz album now in the works.

## Leo Watson in L. A.

Leo Watson has been found. The eccentric drummer and singer has been playing in a quartet at the Waldor Cellar on Main street in downtown L. A. At one time Watson was featured with Gene Krupa's band.

## Boy for Featherstones

Paul Emerson Featherstone III, long awaited heir of the H'wood brand manager of Capitol Records Distributing Co., Inc., arrived at H'wood hospital Jan. 13. He weighed in at 6 pounds, ounces.

## Manone Rehearsing

Wingy Manone, back from the east is rehearsing a small and a large band with which he'll play theatres this month, including his home town of New Orleans.

# Carlos Chavez Latches Onto American Jazz Bandwagon

"THERE IS a great wealth of jazz music in the United States which reflects the feeling of the country. I think there is a lot of music in jazz. Its performance should be encouraged more."

That's how Carlos Chavez, Mexico's foremost composer and conductor, feels about American jazz music. In Los Angeles to conduct the L. A. Philharmonic in January, Chavez, only 45, gave his own definition of the term, "good music."

"Good music is that which grows as it is heard more and more. At first, one might not like the composition. Bad music, on the other hand, grows tiring with repetition."

Chavez paid tribute to William Grant Still, Roy Harris and Aaron Copeland as "the best" of the American composers.

Seventeen years ago the Mexican organized the Mexico City Symphony and still is its permanent conductor. Calm and deliberate, Chavez reflected none of the "fiery temperament" usually attributed to Latin-Americans.



**ELLA MAE MORSE**, who has been active doing personal appearances on the coast, teams with Allan Jones Feb. 3 for a two-day p.a. at the new Mission Beach Ballroom in San Diego. She will also play the L. A. Orpheum this month. Photo by Dorlan.

# Vaughn Monroe at Palladium Feb. 6

The orchestra of Vaughn Monroe moves into the Palladium Feb. 6, replacing the current Gene Krupa ensemble. Monroe and his band, playing their first Palladium engagement, will hold forth until Frankie Carle opens on March 20.

Monroe is now winding up a long tour of theatres. The virile, handsome baritone, who doubles trumpet and trombone, features a raft of entertainers within his organization, among them the four Norton sisters, canary Rosemary Calvin, Andy Bagni, alto sax; Bob Shelby, piano; Johnny Bond, trumpet and vocals, and Bob Rickey, drums.

Ansell Hill's band has been playing the Palladium on Monday nights, when the feature band is off, since the death in December of Lennie Conn, who led the regular Monday night combo.

## Al Russell Clicks

New trio led by Al Russell, pianist and singer, is clicking at Randini's Club here. Group includes a bass and guitar, and last month replaced Al Casey's combo. GAC books.

## Nate Milstein Due

Nathan Milstein, violinist, will appear as soloist with the Werner Janssen Symphony Feb. 11 at the Wilshire-Ebell Theatre here. The orchestra will play Brahms' Second Symphony.

## Just Like Alger?

Not too many years ago Xavier Cugat was a second-rate artist with the Los Angeles Times.

Last month the same Cugat, in one spectacular scene for Metro's "Weekend at the Waldorf," directed his band along with an 80-piece symphony and a choral group of 18 voices. In addition to all that, Cugat supervised a 5-piece rumba band and the singing of Lina Romay.

# Harry James Eyes Personnel Switch

Continuing to revamp his band, Harry James last month dropped four strings and took on Dave Coleman, drummer, and Vic Hamann, trombonist, as the James ensemble went to work in earnest playing weekends at the Casa Manana and broadcasting Saturdays on the new Danny Kaye show for a beer sponsor.

James, free of his Metro contract, is signed to 20th-Fox and his first picture will be "Kitten On the Keys" which Georgie Jessel is producing. The band will remain on the west coast for at least three more months.

# Bob Crosby Tours Battle Zones

Following a "break in" period of several months in Hawaii and surrounding vicinity, Lt. Bob Crosby last month embarked on a long tour of the South Pacific military bases as leader of a 30-piece band comprised exclusively of Marine musicians.

Crosby, a noted civilian maestro and singer until a year ago, is expected to tour for several months. His old civilian band, with such men as Ray Bauduc, Nappy LaMare, Matty Matlock, Yank Lawson, Gil Rodin, Eddie Miller and Bob Haggart, was tabbed "The Best Dixieland Band in the Land" before it broke up in December, 1942, after playing a New Jersey theatre.

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WITH PAUL BARON AND HIS ORCHESTRA

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and  
**'My Heart Sings'**

from MGM's "ANCHORS AWEIGH"

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# Bumps Myers Back in L. A. With Burke

Back in L. A. after two years as the kingpin of Benny Carter's reed section, Hubert (Bumps) Myers and his tenor sax have rejoined Ceelle Burke's ork at the Bal Tabarin Club here.

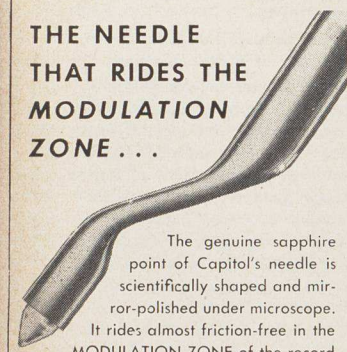
Myers returned to the coast to undergo a tonsilectomy. He will remain here indefinitely, he said. Burke, meanwhile, is playing his seventh year at the Bel with a band which features his own guitar and vocals, Myers on tenor, Andrew Blakeney and George Arrndorff, trumpets; Joe Bailey, bass; Lee Gibson, drums; Willard McDaniel, piano, and Gene Mikell and Leo Davis, saxes.

# Paul Martin Revamps Band

With a reorganized band featuring Peggy McCall as thrush, Paul Martin last month took his crew to San Diego for a 6-week run at the Ratliff Ballroom. The new crew was revamped by Martin with the help of Dave (Ace) Hudkins, former associate of Artie Shaw, who is drumming in the revamped Martin band.

Martin has been a west coast maestro many years, and is noted for his guitar soloing.

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**SOLOIST** at the Copacabana Club in San Francisco is Janice Cameron, 19, who recently closed in the musical show "8:40 Review" in H'wood. She's sung in numerous Southern Cal niteries and claims that Nat (King) Cole is her fave singer. Photo by Charlie Mihn.

# Cugat, Not Duke, For Trocadero

In a surprise booking following by only a few weeks his recent engagement at the rival Ciro's, Xavier Cugat and his ork opened in late January at the Trocadero Club.

Cugat, busy at Metro making "Week-end at the Waldorf," cancelled eastern bookings to accept the Troc engagement and stay here for additional film assignments.

Duke Ellington and ork had been offered the Trocadero and plans of the management were to offer topflight sepia bands, but after several months of dickering, the Troc management dropped its Ellington bid and signed Cugat instead. It's extremely doubtful now that the Troc will attempt a top colored band policy as a result of the Ellington brushoff, said George Goldie, Troc manager.

# McHugh and Adamson In Ninth Year

Jimmy McHugh and Harold Adamson are celebrating the ninth anniversary of their first musical stint together. In 1936, they signed their first film contract as a songwriting team, at Universal. Last January, they were pacted to a two-year contract at 20th Century-Fox.

# singers' stuff

**T**WO NEW vocalists began work at the Palladium last month. Manda Lane joined Don Swan's intermission band and Deeda Patrick emerged as chanteuse with Ansel Hill's Monday night combo. Both chirpers were set on their new assignments by Henry Miller of General Amusement and both are reported clicking.

The Count and Countess, cocktail combo, opened at the Venetian room in nearby Long Beach Jan. 17.

Alice Lindsey, at one time featured with Lionel Hampton, opened at the Bal Tabarin Club in conjunction with Ceelle Burke's band.

Wynne Fair recovered from recent operation and returned to Red Nichols' Pennies as thrush. Blonde Helen Greco substituted during Wynne's illness.

Warners signed Ramsey Ames, rum-ba singer, to new film pact.

Nina Ferova will sing in Republic's "Return At Dawn."

Paul Carley, ex-Jimmy Dorsey, and Gloria Delson will sing in Universal's 2-reeler based on Ted Fio-Rito's band. Also the Solidaires.

The same Solidaires plus Kay and Ward Swingle handle regular vocal chores with Fio-Rito crew, which just closed at the Trianon.

Lena Horne still playing more military camps and benefits than any other H'wood personality. Horace Henderson accompanies her at the piano.

Dick Haymes knocking himself out at 20th as he stars in "Do You Love Me?" now in production.

Debby Claire joined Jan Garber.

Marilyn Maxwell, former Ted Weems canary who now is Miss Big at Metro, risked suspension by going to New Orleans to boost Weems' boxoffice draw at the St. Charles. Moreover, she accepted no salary from her former boss. She's back in town now, with everyone, but Metro delighted over her action.

# vine street gab

**AL JARVIS'** current New York visit is the first he's enjoyed in the Big Town in several years. While Joe Yocum handles his KFWB "Ballroom" show, Jarvis is attending to business in the east and lining up new radio endeavors. He's expected back here in mid-February.

Paul Weston trained to N. Y. with other Capitol execs for quick look-see. Cap's Lee Gillette returned from long trip into the hill country digging talent.

Holdovers this month in local bistros include Joe Sullivan at Cafe America, Zutty Singleton at Swanee Inn, Illinois Jacquet at Swing Club. Joe and Zutty now work as single acts.

Les Paul's fly trio made its nitery debut in the Clover Club. Group gets plenty of air time on KHJ-Mutual, too.

Segovia appears for Beymer concert here in February.

Emory Deutsch, former bandleader, is out of the navy and, with his wife, visited friends here last month.

Abe Lyman and wife, Rose Blane, resting up in the sun before returning east to reorganize their band.

Gene Krupa and band sticking around following Palladium run to finish work in RKO's "George White's Scandals."

Hoagy Carmichael's Sunday KHJ-Mutual show undergoing complete renovation following Jan. 21 broadcast. All the cast is out, leaving Hoagy as a single.

H'wood Palladium's Maurice Cohen in the east eyeing possible sites in various major cities for Palladiums similar to one here. Expected back about Feb. 5.

Tommy (GAC) Rockwell wound up his winter visit at the TR ranch in nearby Monrovia. Orange crop excellent this year, he said.

Stan Kenton purchased interest in Mexican flour mill as long-term investment.

Bob Allen has solo spot as singer in Universal's "She Gets Her Man" with Joan Davis.



**ELBOW-BENDERS** on the Vine street "beat" include Gene Krupa, Peter Potter of KFWB and Red Nichols. Potter recently was discharged from the army and is back doing disc-jockey chores again. It was Nichols who gave Krupa his first break in the late 1920's; today both are eminently successful as maestros. Photo by Gene Lester.

# Aragon Retains Al Donahue Ork

Al Donahue and his combo remain at the Aragon Ballroom, Ocean Park, throughout February.

Donahue began his engagement at the Aragon last summer and has been held over six times. Al is recovering from a recent illness which kept him off the bandstand several nights.

# who's where

**COLEMAN HAWKINS:** Cornegie Hall.  
**EDDIE HEYWOOD:** Shepp's Playhouse.  
**VAUGHN MONROE:** Palladium.  
**BILLY ECKSTINE:** Plantation.  
**JOE REICHMAN:** Biltmore.  
**FREDDY MARTIN:** Ambassador.  
**EMIL COLEMAN:** Mocambo.  
**RED CALLENDER:** Club Royale.  
**ILLINOIS JACQUET:** Swing Club.  
**JACK MARSH:** Pirate's Den.  
**MANNY PRAGER:** Hotel Hayward.  
**JUD CONLON:** Casablanca.  
**MANNY STRAND:** Earl Carroll's.  
**HAPPY JOHNSON:** Cricket Club.  
**JACK DERANJA:** Hacker's.  
**DOUG SAWTELLE:** "IF" Cafe.  
**JERRY TEUER:** The Haig.  
**EMILE PETTI:** Town House.  
**HORACE HEIDT:** Trianon.  
**BILL EARLY:** Hangover.  
**SONNY KENDIS:** H'wood Tropics.  
**JOE SULLIVAN:** Cafe America.  
**FESS WHITE:** "Jerry's Joynt."  
**ZUTTY SINGLETON:** Swanee Inn.  
**ABBEY BROWNE:** Charlie Foy's.  
**AL DONAHUE:** Aragon Ballroom.  
**CEELLE BURKE:** Bal Tabarin.  
**CHARLIE BARNET:** Casa Manana.  
**HARRY ROSENTHAL:** The Players.  
**JACK DUNN:** Zenda Ballroom.  
**DINNY FISHER:** Zamboanga.  
**JOE HELQUIN:** The Village.  
**LEIGHTON NOBLE:** Slapsy Maxie's.

# Making Pix

**GENE KRUPA:** RKO-Radio.  
**HARRY JAMES:** 20th-Fox.  
**XAVIER CUGAT:** MGM.

## GREAT STARS!

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## WONDERFUL RAVES!

**LOOK MAGAZINE**—Predicts "The King Cole Trio... musical team most likely to make headlines in 1945!"  
**METRONOME**—Winner in small band popularity poll  
By voting the Cole group into the winning slot our readers have endorsed our enthusiasm.  
**DOWN BEAT**—Winner in small instrumental combo poll  
"The King Cole Trio, bolstered by a flock of best-selling discs, ran away with the choice of small instrumental combos."

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IT'S ONLY A PAPER MOON PRELUDE IN C-SHARP MINOR  
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**HITTING THE ROAD** again after two months in California, Anita O'Day and Stan Kenton are given a solid sendoff by Paul Weston, musical director of Capitol Records. Miss O'Day's singing talent soon will be presented on Capitol under her own name as well as with Kenton's band. Weston, too, later left for New York but returns soon to H'wood. Photo by Charlie Mihn.

# Anita O'Day Signs to Wax As a Single for Capitol

Anita O'Day soon will be featured on Capitol records as a singing single.

Miss O'Day, who attracted attention first with Gene Krupa's and later, Stan Kenton's orchestra, will remain as Stan's featured vocalist. Last month, however, she recorded four sides under her own name with a specially-assembled band. Kenton assisted her.

A Chicago girl, Anita got her start in show business at 14 as a dancer in Middlewestern "walkathon" contests. Her first big break as a canary came at the Off-Beat Club in Chicago, with the help of Carl Cons. Later she joined

Krupa. She won the Metronome and Down Beat polls this year and was a star of the recent Esquire concert.

## Gene Krupa Ork For 20th Film

With the announcement by 20th-Fox officials that "Kitten On the Keys," musical produced by Georgie Jessel, had been changed to "Do You Love Me?" it was also revealed that Gene Krupa will have a spot in the film.

Stars are Maureen O'Hara and Dick Haymes. Harry James' band also will be featured. Krupa goes to work at 20th as soon as he finishes work in his current RKO flick.

# Eight Great Sides!

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and His Orchestra

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## Meet the Jockey!

**WILLIAM RANDLE** produces the popular "Strictly Jazz" daily program on Detroit's WJLB and features only small hot combos and big jump crews. He also sponsors concerts in the Motor City with prominent musicians taking part, in the flesh. In a city where le hot has never flourished, Randle is winning wide acclaim from a hungry, appreciative audience which dials his stanza daily at 3:15 p.m. In June he will present a monstrous concert at Masonic Temple at which more than 4,500 are expected to attend.



## Skinner is New Chicago Manager

William E. Skinner took over last week as branch manager of Capitol Records Distributing Co., Inc.

A former student at Purdue University and a native Indianan, Skinner until recently was in charge of field operations for ANEPA, government bureau which expedites radio equipment for the armed forces. Before the war he was active in the recording field with a major waxworks.

Skinner's new offices are at 322 North Michigan avenue.

## Another Raise For Jacquet Ork

Illinois Jacquet, his tenor sax and band received another holdover in January at the Swing Club in H'wood. The group has proved one of the most spectacular successes of the season and, paced by the leader's booming horn, will continue indefinitely at the club.

Billy Hadnott is Jacquet's bassist, and is rated as among the finest on the coast.

The Four Blazes entertain in the adjoining "front" room.

## Teddy Bunn Active

Guitarist Teddy Bunn, unheard from in recent months in L. A. music circles is now working with a trio at Rite Spot in Glendale, an L. A. suburb. Bunn once starred with the "Spirits of Rhythm."

# Now! from Capitol Records- A DELIGHTFUL NEW CHILDREN'S ALBUM

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Here's an entertaining, whimsical, quality album that will bring joy to youngsters and oldsters for years to come. Educational and musical directors, mothers and children say Capitol has packed this series of 4 records with more charm and chortles than any album yet recorded.

All agree, too, that Capitol has set a different, higher standard for children's records. To avoid disappointment, then, in obtaining this Christmas gift surprise—*please*—place your order today.

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## A Full House at Capitol



SEVEN SPARROWS, no less, comprise this conclave at Capitol's offices in H'wood. Assembled last month, the group includes Liz Tilton, Yvonne King, Martha Tilton,

Margaret Whiting, Jo Stafford, Peggy Lee and Donna K. This luscious lineup has since dispersed, with Martha Jo now in the east making personal appearances.